



**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE REQUESTED
EXAMINING GROUP 1711
PATENT**

Attorney Docket No. 3327-2329

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
)
Susumu Hoshi et al.) Group Art Unit: 1711
)
Application No.: 10/512,410) Examiner: Jeffrey C. Mullis
)
Filed: October 25, 2004) Confirmation No.: 4613
)
For: Block Copolymer and Composition) **Mail Stop AF**
Thereof)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

REPLY TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

The following is in reply to the Final Office Action mailed June 29, 2006, the period for response having been extended to December 29, 2006 by a request for extension of three months and fee payment filed concurrently herewith.

In the Office Action of June 29, 2006 the Examiner continued to reject claims 1-25 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) for being obvious over Knoll.

A limitation in applicants' claims is that in the block copolymer, "40-80% by weight of the vinyl aromatic hydrocarbon polymer blocks have a molecular weight of 35,000 or less." In contrast, as argued in the last Reply, in Knoll's block copolymer 100% by weight of the vinyl aromatic hydrocarbon polymer blocks have a molecular weight of 35,000 or less. The Examiner disagrees, arguing that "block" does not